

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Mike Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Smith,

As you approach full Committee markup of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (NDAA), on Wednesday, June 21, we write to express our strong opposition to the inclusion of any provisions that attack access to reproductive health care and fertility treatments—or any burdensome, politically motivated reporting requirements on this care.

The Democratic Women's Caucus is fully committed to the health and wellbeing of all women and is strongly opposed to the needless politicization of the NDAA. We urge you to not use the NDAA to attack reproductive health care or further politicize it. Women—including women servicemembers—already face steep barriers to accessing reproductive health care, and further attacks would only make this health crisis worse. Our service women are standing up for our freedom, we must stand up for theirs.

Your committee markup will take place just days ahead of the first anniversary of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, which dealt a devastating blow to reproductive rights. Women across the country are watching closely, and don't want to see reproductive rights further eroded in what has been a historically bipartisan bill dedicated to strengthening our national security and protecting our servicemembers. Inclusion of provisions attacking reproductive rights could jeopardize the final passage of this important legislation.

Thank you for your work on this important bill.

Sincerely,



Lois Frankel
Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Nikema Williams
Vice Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Teresa Leger Fernández
Vice Chair
Democratic Women's Caucus



Ayanna Pressley
Policy Taskforce Co-Chair
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